

## Forest Service Funding Opportunities by David Bakke, US Forest Service

### 1. Invasive Plants Program Grants –

- program has been in place since 2002
- money to states for invasive weed work on non-Federal lands
- money can be granted to CDFA or to another entity at CDFA's request (local gov't, university, non-profit)
- FY09 funding expected to be the same as FY08 (\$275,000)
- 50:50 match required
- Contact Carri Pirosko or Terrance Lorick at CDFA

### 2. Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act

- amended and reauthorized in October 2008, now extended through FY 2011
- money from the Forest Service that is paid to the counties as substitute for 25% receipts we used to pay
- Title II of the act allows for counties to elect to use some of this money for enhancement of forest ecosystems and restoring or improving land health and water quality
- the focus of projects is on Federal lands or closely aligned lands if the nexus can be made to improving or protecting Federal lands
- Resource Advisory Committees at the County (or multi-county) level receive project proposals by 9/30 of each year
- Once approved by the RAC, funded from local NF.
- Estimated at \$6 million for this year and each subsequent year through 2011.
- <http://www.fs.fed.us/srs/>

**For integrated invasive plant projects that involve both Federal and non-Federal lands across ownership lines, this type of funding opportunity may be ideal.**

### 3. State and Private Forestry Redesign Program

- an effort at the national level to place S&PF funds in projects of highest priority
- Nation divided into 3 zones, NE, SE, west (plains states and west).
- Projects are compiled at state level, through the state forester, so with CalFire here in CA, ranked at state level by state forester
- Goes through a review, ranking, and selection process at western states level.
- Projects awarded as grants.
- looking for large-scale, cooperative projects that deal with forest health, fire prevention, urban and community forestry, etc
- For Fy09, there were 4 projects submitted from California (for \$809K) out of a potential pool of \$7.2 million westwide; 1 selected; awaiting final federal budget
- <http://www.fs.fed.us/spf/redesign/index.shtml>

### 4. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

- many may have heard this referred to as the stimulus bill
- Emphasis is on putting people to work in the short-term (over next 2 years).
- Among the funds the Forest Service is receiving are \$250 million to go through State and Private Forestry, to be used under all our authorities.
- CDFA submitted a list of projects
- At this point, little I can say about whether this funding will be available for any specific work in California, including invasive plants.
- Expect to hear more in the next few weeks.